

## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

KÖSTER et al.

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**SYNTHESIS** 

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## **AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents
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Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action, mailed April 21, 2003, entry of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 5, 12, 13 and 33 with the following claims:

5. (Amended Three times) A liquid phase carrier (LPC) that has formula (la):

$$(R^1)_p$$
-A- $(Z-X^1)_n$  (Ia)

wherein: A is silicon; R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, heteroaralkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclylalkyl; p is 0 or 1; Z is any combination of 1-12 units selected from 1,2-, 1,3- or 1,4-phenylene and alkylene units, which units may be combined in any order; X<sup>1</sup> is any reactive group which can be used in biopolymer synthesis; n is 3 or 4; with the proviso that if Z is